10/540531 3C17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 JUN 2005

Attorney Docket No. 040894-7268 National Stage Application of PCT/JP03/16170 Page 2

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original): A cell separation and recovery apparatus, which comprises:

a treatment part having a non-woven fabric which is bound with a polymer showing a hydrophobic nature at a temperature higher than a predetermined temperature and showing a hydrophilic nature at a temperature lower than the predetermined temperature and a physiologically active substance capable of binding to target cells, and

a liquid temperature controlling part for controlling liquid temperature of the treatment part,

wherein the cells captured on the non-woven fabric are released and recovered from the non-woven fabric by changing the liquid temperature of the treatment part around the prescribed temperature with the liquid temperature controlling part.

- 2. (Original): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the physiologically active substance is bound to the non-woven fabric via the polymer.
- 3. (Original): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the physiologically active substance is directly bound to the non-woven fabric.
- 4. (Original): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the physiologically active substance is bound to the non-woven fabric via a spacer.

- 5. (Currently Amended): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to any one of claims claim 1-to-4, which is constituted so as to capture the cells on the non-woven fabric captures when the liquid temperature is lower than the predetermined temperature, and to release the captured cells from the non-woven fabric when the liquid temperature is higher than the predetermined temperature.
- 6. (Currently Amended): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to any one of claims claim 1-to-4, which is constituted so as to capture the cells on the non-woven fabric when the liquid temperature is higher than the predetermined temperature, and to release the captured cells from the non-woven fabric when the liquid temperature is lower than the predetermined temperature.
- 7. (Currently Amended): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to any one of claims claim 1-to 6, wherein the polymer is poly(N-isopropylacrylamide).
- 8. (Currently Amended): The cell separation and recovery apparatus according to any one of claims claim 1-to-6, wherein the physiologically active substance is at least one selected from the group consisting of an antigen, an antibody and a protein such as a fragment thereof.

9. (Original): A method for separating and recovering cells, which comprises:

bringing a liquid containing cells into contact with a non-woven fabric which is bound with a polymer showing a hydrophobic nature at a temperature higher than a predetermined temperature and showing a hydrophilic nature at a temperature lower than the predetermined temperature and a physiologically active substance capable of binding to target cells, to thereby capture target cells on the non-woven fabric for separating the cells,

releasing the captured cells from the non-woven fabric by changing the temperature of the non-woven fabric around the predetermined temperature, and recovering the cells released from the non-woven fabric.

10. (Currently Amended): A method for separating and recovering cells, which comprises: bringing a liquid containing cells into contact with the non-woven fabric in the treatment part using the separation and recovery apparatus according to any one of claims claim 1 to 8 to capture target cells on the non-woven fabric for separating the cells from the liquid,

releasing the captured cells from the non-woven fabric by changing the liquid temperature of the treatment part around the predetermined temperature, and recovering the cells released from the non-woven fabric.